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halogen atoms; (C_1-C_6) alkyl groups; halo (C_1-C_6) alkyl groups; (C_1-C_6) alkoxy groups; halo (C_1-C_6) alkoxy groups; (C_1-C_6) alkylthio groups; halo (C_1-C_6) alkylthio groups; (C_1-C_6) alkylsulfinyl groups; halo (C_1-C_6) alkylsulfinyl groups; (C_1-C_6) alkylsulfonyl groups; halo (C_1-C_6) alkylsulfonyl groups; phenyl group; and substituted phenyl groups
D2 having one or more same or different substituents selected from halogen atoms, halo (C_1-C_6) alkyl groups, halo (C_1-C_6) alkoxy groups, halo (C_1-C_6) alkylthio groups, halo (C_1-C_6) alkylsulfinyl groups and halo (C_1-C_6) alkylsulfonyl groups;

m is an integer of 1 to 5;

Z^1 and Z^2 are each an oxygen atom.

D3 Claim 4. (Twice Amended) An agrohorticultural composition characterized by containing, as an effective ingredient, an aromatic diamide compound or a salt thereof according to claim 1.

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of the subject application are respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 2, 3 and 4 have been amended as shown above to replace the term "derivative" with the term "compound" in response to the rejection of these claims under 35 USC 112, second paragraph. Claims 1, 2 and 3 have additionally been amended as shown above to delete -CO- from the definition of "B" respectively appearing in the originally filed claims on page 78, line 24 (claim 1), on page 103, line 27 (claim 2) and on page 111, line 10 (claim 3). Because of the deletion of -CO- from the definition of "B" in claim 1, all of the caveats (1), (2), (3)

and (4) at the end of claim 1 as amended in the Preliminary Amendment filed March 19, 2002, are no longer necessary and the caveats have accordingly been deleted from claim 1 as shown above. No new matter has been added.

In response to the rejection of claims 1-4 under 35 USC 112, second paragraph, the applicants have amended these claims as suggested by the Examiner to replace the term “derivative” with the term “compound.” Accordingly, the applicants submit that all presently considered claims are fully allowable under Section 112, second paragraph.

The applicants respectfully traverse the rejection of claims 1-6 under 35 USC 102(b) in view of Tohnishi et al., EP 0919542, (Tohnishi '542). The applicants further traverse the rejection of claims 1-6 under 35 USC 103(a) in view of Tohnishi et al. (EP 0919542).

This reference does not anticipate the presently claimed invention or make it obvious.

Tohnishi '542 discloses phthalic acid diamide derivatives of formula (I) for use in insecticides. The applicants submit that the presently claimed compounds are not disclosed or suggested by the teachings of Tohnishi '542. In order to more clearly distinguish the present compound from those of Tohnishi '542, claims 1, 2 and 3 have been amended to delete -CO- from the definition of “B” in present formula (I). This amendment certainly shows novelty over the disclosure of Tohnishi '542 and further shows unobviousness.

However, to further show unobviousness, the applicants have performed experiments that demonstrate new and unexpected results of the presently claimed invention with respect to the insecticidal effect of the presently claimed compounds. The applicants submit and description and the results of side-by-side comparative

tests in a Rule 132 Declaration which is attached to this Amendment.

The Examiner is asked to carefully review the attached Rule 132 Declaration.

In the Rule 132 Declaration, the compound Nos. 136, 137, 140, 248, 265, 279, 284, 309 and III-5 in Tables 1 and 3 of the present specification were used as test compounds of the presently claimed invention.

Compound Nos. 1975 and 1977 of Tohnishi '542 were used as comparative compounds. Those present compounds have -C (=N-OR⁴) -for B, while the comparative compounds have -CO- for the moiety that corresponds to B of the presently claimed compounds.

The results of the comparative tests are shown in the Table at page 4 of the Rule 132 Declaration. The results in the Table clearly show that the compounds of the present invention exhibit new and unexpectedly excellent insecticidal effect, compared with the compounds disclosed in Tohnishi '542. All of the test compounds of the presently claimed invention exhibited excellent mortality rated "A" (100%) at the concentrations 500 ppm and 50 ppm, in the results of Test Examples 1, 2 and 3.

In contrast, the comparative compounds disclosed in Tohnishi '542 exhibited mortality rate "-" (49 % or less) in most of the concentrations of Test Examples 1, 2 and 3. The compound No. 1975 merely exhibited mortality rate A at 500 ppm and 50 ppm in Test Example 1, and at 500 ppm in Test Example 2. The compound No. 1977 exhibited the mortality rate A at 500 ppm and 50 ppm only in the Test Example 1.

Please note that both of the Tohnishi '542 compound Nos. 1975 and 1977 exhibited mortality rate "-" (49 % or less) on Test Example 3 (insecticidal effect on

smaller tea tortrix (Adxophyes sp., even at the highest concentration of 500 ppm.

Significantly, most of the compounds of the presently claimed invention exhibited mortality rate "A" (100%) on Test Example 3, even at the lowest concentration of 5 ppm.

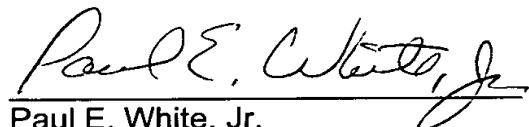
The presently claimed invention shows new and unexpected results over the compound of Tohnishi '542.

Accordingly, the applicants submit that the presently claimed invention is fully allowable under Section 103(a) as well as Section 102(b) in view of the cited reference.

In view of the above and the attached Rule 132 Declaration, the applicants respectfully submit that the presently claimed invention is in condition for allowance and a Notice to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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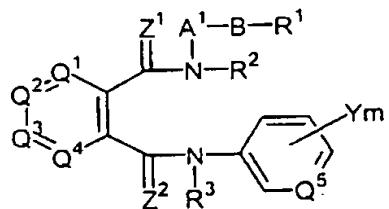
APPENDIX

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE CLAIMS:

Proposed Amendments To Claims 1, 2, 3 and 4, Showing Deletions And Insertions.

Claim 1. (Twice Amended) An aromatic diamide [derivative] compound represented by the following general formula (I) or a salt thereof:



C_6)alkylsulfonyl groups, halo(C_1 - C_6)alkylsulfonyl groups, (C_1 - C_6)-alkylthio(C_1 - C_6)alkyl groups, (C_1 - C_6)alkoxycarbonyl groups and phenyl group; a (C_3 - C_8)alkynylene group; or a substituted (C_3 - C_8)alkynylene group having one or more same or different substituents selected from halogen atoms, cyano group, nitro group, halo(C_1 - C_6)alkyl groups, (C_1 - C_6)alkoxy groups, halo(C_1 - C_6)alkoxy groups, (C_1 - C_6)-alkylthio groups, halo(C_1 - C_6)alkylthio groups, (C_1 - C_6)alkylsulfinyl groups, halo(C_1 - C_6)alkylsulfinyl groups, (C_1 - C_6)alkylsulfonyl groups, halo(C_1 - C_6)alkylsulfonyl groups, (C_1 - C_6)alkylthio(C_1 - C_6)alkyl groups, (C_1 - C_6)alkoxycarbonyl groups and phenyl group;

in the (C_1 - C_8)alkylene group, the substituted (C_1 - C_8) alkylene group, the (C_3 - C_8)alkenylene group, the substituted (C_3 - C_8) alkenylene group, the (C_3 - C_8)-alkynylene group or the substituted (C_3 - C_8)alkynylene group, any saturated carbon atom may be substituted with a (C_2 - C_5)alkylene group to form a (C_3 - C_6)cycloalkane ring; further in the (C_1 - C_8)alkylene group, the substituted (C_1 - C_8) alkylene group, the (C_3 - C_8)alkenylene group or the substituted (C_3 - C_8) alkenylene group, any two carbon atoms may be combined with an alkylene group or an alkenylene group to form a (C_3 - C_6)cycloalkane ring or a (C_3 - C_6)cycloalkene ring;

B is [-CO- or] -C(=N-OR⁴)- (wherein R⁴ is a hydrogen atom; a (C_1 - C_6)alkyl group; a halo(C_1 - C_6)alkyl group; a (C_3 - C_6)alkenyl group; a halo(C_3 - C_6)alkenyl group; a (C_3 - C_6)alkynyl group; a (C_3 - C_6)cycloalkyl group; a phenyl(C_1 - C_4)alkyl group; or a substituted phenyl(C_1 - C_4)alkyl group having, on the ring, one or more same or different substituents selected from halogen atoms, cyano group, nitro group, (C_1 - C_6)alkyl groups, halo(C_1 - C_6)alkyl groups, (C_1 - C_6)alkoxy groups, halo(C_1 - C_6)alkoxy groups, (C_1 - C_6)alkylthio groups, halo(C_1 - C_6)alkylthio groups, (C_1 - C_6)alkylsulfinyl groups, halo(C_1 - C_6)alkylsulfinyl groups, (C_1 - C_6)alkylsulfonyl groups,

halo(C₁-C₆)alkylsulfonyl groups, mono(C₁-C₆)alkylamino groups, di(C₁-C₆)alkylamino groups wherein the two alkyl groups may be the same or different, and (C₁-C₆)-alkoxycarbonyl groups);

C_6)alkyl groups, halo(C_1 - C_6)alkyl groups, (C_1 - C_6)alkoxy groups, halo(C_1 - C_6)alkoxy groups, (C_1 - C_6)alkylthio groups, halo(C_1 - C_6)alkylthio groups, (C_1 - C_6)alkylsulfinyl groups, halo(C_1 - C_6)alkylsulfinyl groups, (C_1 - C_6)alkylsulfonyl groups, halo(C_1 - C_6)alkylsulfonyl groups, mono(C_1 - C_6)alkylamino groups, di(C_1 - C_6)alkylamino groups wherein the two alkyl groups may be the same or different, and (C_1 - C_6)-alkoxycarbonyl groups; a phenylthio group; a substituted phenylthio group having one or more same or different substituents selected from halogen atoms, cyano group, nitro group, (C_1 - C_6)alkyl groups, halo(C_1 - C_6)alkyl groups, (C_1 - C_6)alkoxy groups, halo(C_1 - C_6)alkoxy groups, (C_1 - C_6)alkylthio groups, halo(C_1 - C_6)alkylthio groups, (C_1 - C_6)alkylsulfinyl groups, halo(C_1 - C_6)-alkylsulfinyl groups, (C_1 - C_6)alkylsulfonyl groups, halo(C_1 - C_6)alkylsulfonyl groups, mono(C_1 - C_6)alkylamino groups, di(C_1 - C_6)alkylamino groups wherein the two alkyl groups may be the same or different, and (C_1 - C_6)-alkoxycarbonyl groups; a heterocyclic group; or a substituted heterocyclic group having one or more same or different substituents selected from halogen atoms, cyano group, nitro group, (C_1 - C_6)alkyl groups, halo(C_1 - C_6)alkyl groups, (C_1 - C_6)alkoxy groups, halo(C_1 - C_6)alkoxy groups, (C_1 - C_6)alkylthio groups, halo(C_1 - C_6)alkylthio groups, (C_1 - C_6)alkylsulfinyl groups, halo(C_1 - C_6)alkylsulfinyl groups, (C_1 - C_6)alkylsulfonyl groups, halo(C_1 - C_6)alkylsulfonyl groups, mono(C_1 - C_6)alkylamino groups, di(C_1 - C_6)alkylamino groups wherein the two alkyl groups may be the same or different, and (C_1 - C_6)-alkoxycarbonyl groups;

R¹ may bond with A¹ to form a 4- to 7-membered ring which may contain, as a ring-constituting atom(s), one or two same or different atoms selected from oxygen, sulfur and nitrogen atoms;

R² and R³ may be the same or different and are each a hydrogen atom, a (C_3 - C_6)cycloalkyl group or -A²-R⁵ [wherein A² is -C(=O)-, -C(=S)-, -

C(=NR⁶)- (wherein R⁶ is a hydrogen atom; a (C₁-C₆)alkyl group; a (C₁-C₆)alkoxy group; a mono(C₁-C₆)alkylamino group; a di(C₁-C₆)-alkylamino group wherein the two alkyl groups may be the same or different; a (C₁-C₆)alkoxycarbonyl group; a phenyl group; or a substituted phenyl group having one or more same or different substituents selected from halogen atoms, cyano group, nitro group, (C₁-C₆)alkyl groups, halo(C₁-C₆)alkyl groups, (C₁-C₆)alkoxy groups, halo(C₁-C₆)alkoxy groups, (C₁-C₆)alkylthio groups, halo(C₁-C₆)alkylthio groups, (C₁-C₆)alkylsulfinyl groups, halo(C₁-C₆)alkylsulfinyl groups, (C₁-C₆)alkylsulfonyl groups, halo(C₁-C₆)alkylsulfonyl groups, mono(C₁-C₆)alkylamino groups, di(C₁-C₆)alkylamino groups wherein the two alkyl groups may be the same or different, and (C₁-C₆)alkoxycarbonyl groups), a (C₁-C₈)alkylene group, a halo(C₁-C₈)alkylene group, a (C₃-C₆)alkenylene group, a halo(C₃-C₆)alkenylene group, a (C₃-C₆)alkynylene group or a halo(C₃-C₆)alkynylene group;

(1) when A² is -C(=O)-, -C(=S)- or -C(=NR⁶)- (wherein R⁶ has the same definition as given above), R⁵ is a hydrogen atom; a (C₁-C₆)alkyl group; a halo(C₁-C₆)-alkyl group; a (C₁-C₆)alkoxy group; a (C₃-C₆)cycloalkyl group; a halo(C₃-C₆)cycloalkyl group; a phenyl group; a substituted phenyl group having one or more same or different substituents selected from halogen atoms, cyano group, nitro group, (C₁-C₆)alkyl groups, halo(C₁-C₆)alkyl groups, (C₁-C₆)alkoxy groups, halo(C₁-C₆)alkoxy groups, (C₁-C₆)alkylthio groups, halo(C₁-C₆)alkylthio groups, (C₁-C₆)alkylsulfinyl groups, halo(C₁-C₆)alkylsulfinyl groups, (C₁-C₆)alkylsulfonyl groups, halo(C₁-C₆)alkylsulfonyl groups, mono(C₁-C₆)alkylamino groups, di(C₁-C₆)alkylamino groups wherein the two alkyl groups may be the same or different, and (C₁-C₆)-alkoxycarbonyl groups; a heterocyclic group; a substituted heterocyclic group having one or more same or different substituents selected from halogen

atoms, cyano group, nitro group, (C₁-C₆)alkyl groups, halo(C₁-C₆)alkyl groups, (C₁-C₆)alkoxy groups, halo(C₁-C₆)alkoxy groups, (C₁-C₆)alkylthio groups, halo(C₁-C₆)alkylthio groups, (C₁-C₆)alkylsulfinyl groups, halo(C₁-C₆)-alkylsulfinyl groups, (C₁-C₆)alkylsulfonyl groups, halo(C₁-C₆)alkylsulfonyl groups, mono(C₁-C₆)alkylamino groups, di(C₁-C₆)alkylamino groups wherein the two alkyl groups may be the same or different, and (C₁-C₆)-alkoxycarbonyl groups; or -A³-R⁷ (wherein A³ is -O-, -S- or -N(R⁸)- (wherein R⁸ is a hydrogen atom; a (C₁-C₆)-alkylcarbonyl group; a halo(C₁-C₆)alkylcarbonyl group; a (C₁-C₆)alkoxycarbonyl group; a phenylcarbonyl group; a substituted phenylcarbonyl group having one or more same or different substituents selected from halogen atoms, cyano group, nitro group, (C₁-C₆)alkyl groups, halo(C₁-C₆)alkyl groups, (C₁-C₆)alkoxy groups, halo(C₁-C₆)alkoxy groups, (C₁-C₆)alkylthio groups, halo(C₁-C₆)-alkylthio groups, (C₁-C₆)alkylsulfinyl groups, halo(C₁-C₆)alkylsulfinyl groups, (C₁-C₆)alkylsulfonyl groups, halo(C₁-C₆)alkylsulfonyl groups, mono(C₁-C₆)alkylamino groups, di(C₁-C₆)alkylamino groups wherein the two alkyl groups may be the same or different, and (C₁-C₆)-alkoxycarbonyl groups; a phenyl(C₁-C₄)alkoxycarbonyl group; or a substituted phenyl(C₁-C₄)alkoxycarbonyl group having, on the ring, one or more same or different substituents selected from halogen atoms, cyano group, nitro group, (C₁-C₆)alkyl groups, halo(C₁-C₆)alkyl groups, (C₁-C₆)alkoxy groups, halo(C₁-C₆)alkoxy groups, (C₁-C₆)alkylthio groups, halo(C₁-C₆)alkylthio groups, (C₁-C₆)alkylsulfinyl groups, halo(C₁-C₆)alkylsulfinyl groups, (C₁-C₆)alkylsulfonyl groups, halo(C₁-C₆)alkylsulfonyl groups, mono(C₁-C₆)alkylamino groups, di(C₁-C₆)alkylamino groups wherein the two alkyl groups may be the same or different, and (C₁-C₆)-alkoxycarbonyl groups); and R⁷ is a (C₁-C₆)alkyl group; a halo(C₁-C₆)alkyl group; a (C₃-C₆)alkenyl group; a halo(C₃-C₆)alkenyl group; a (C₃-C₆)alkynyl

group; a halo(C_3 - C_6)alkynyl group; a (C_3 - C_6)cycloalkyl group; a halo(C_3 - C_6)cycloalkyl group; a (C_1 - C_6)alkylcarbonyl group; a halo(C_1 - C_6)alkylcarbonyl group; a (C_1 - C_6)-alkoxycarbonyl group; a phenyl group; a substituted phenyl group having one or more same or different substituents selected from halogen atoms, cyano group, nitro group, (C_1 - C_6)alkyl groups, halo(C_1 - C_6)alkyl groups, (C_1 - C_6)alkoxy groups, halo(C_1 - C_6)alkoxy groups, (C_1 - C_6)alkylthio groups, halo(C_1 - C_6)alkylthio groups, (C_1 - C_6)alkylsulfinyl groups, halo(C_1 - C_6)alkylsulfinyl groups, (C_1 - C_6)alkylsulfonyl groups, halo(C_1 - C_6)-alkylsulfonyl groups, mono(C_1 - C_6)alkylamino groups, di(C_1 - C_6)alkylamino groups wherein the two alkyl groups may be the same or different, and (C_1 - C_6)alkoxycarbonyl groups; a phenyl(C_1 - C_4)alkyl group; a substituted phenyl(C_1 - C_4)alkyl group having, on the ring, one or more same or different substituents selected from halogen atoms, cyano group, nitro group, (C_1 - C_6)alkyl groups, halo(C_1 - C_6)alkyl groups, (C_1 - C_6)alkoxy groups, halo(C_1 - C_6)alkoxy groups, (C_1 - C_6)alkylthio groups, halo(C_1 - C_6)alkylthio groups, (C_1 - C_6)alkylsulfinyl groups, halo(C_1 - C_6)alkylsulfinyl groups, (C_1 - C_6)alkylsulfonyl groups, halo(C_1 - C_6)-alkylsulfonyl groups, mono(C_1 - C_6)alkylamino groups, di(C_1 - C_6)alkylamino groups wherein the two alkyl groups may be the same or different, and (C_1 - C_6)alkoxycarbonyl groups; a heterocyclic group; or a substituted heterocyclic group having one or more same or different substituents selected from halogen atoms, cyano group, nitro group, (C_1 - C_6)alkyl groups, halo(C_1 - C_6)alkyl groups, (C_1 - C_6)alkoxy groups, halo(C_1 - C_6)alkoxy groups, (C_1 - C_6)alkylthio groups, halo(C_1 - C_6)alkylthio groups, (C_1 - C_6)alkylsulfinyl groups, halo(C_1 - C_6)alkylsulfinyl groups, (C_1 - C_6)alkylsulfonyl groups, halo(C_1 - C_6)-alkylsulfonyl groups, mono(C_1 - C_6)alkylamino groups, di(C_1 - C_6)alkylamino groups wherein the two alkyl groups may be the same or different, and (C_1 - C_6)alkoxycarbonyl groups);

(2) when A² is a (C₁-C₈)alkylene group, a halo(C₁-C₈)alkylene group, a (C₃-C₆)alkenylene group, a halo(C₃-C₆)alkenylene group, a (C₃-C₆)alkynylene group or a halo(C₃-C₆)alkynylene group, R⁵ is a hydrogen atom; a halogen atom; a cyano group; a nitro group; a (C₃-C₆)-cycloalkyl group; a halo(C₃-C₆)cycloalkyl group; a (C₁-C₆)alkoxycarbonyl group; a phenyl group; a substituted phenyl group having one or more same or different substituents selected from halogen atoms, cyano group, nitro group, (C₁-C₆)alkyl groups, halo(C₁-C₆)alkyl groups, (C₁-C₆)alkoxy groups, halo(C₁-C₆)alkoxy groups, (C₁-C₆)alkylthio groups, halo(C₁-C₆)alkylthio groups, (C₁-C₆)alkylsulfinyl groups, halo(C₁-C₆)alkylsulfinyl groups, (C₁-C₆)alkylsulfonyl groups, halo(C₁-C₆)alkylsulfonyl groups, mono(C₁-C₆)alkylamino groups, di(C₁-C₆)alkylamino groups wherein the two alkyl groups may be the same or different, and (C₁-C₆)alkoxycarbonyl groups; a heterocyclic group; a substituted heterocyclic group having one or more same or different substituents selected from halogen atoms, cyano group, nitro group, (C₁-C₆)alkyl groups, halo(C₁-C₆)alkyl groups, (C₁-C₆)alkoxy groups, halo(C₁-C₆)alkoxy groups, (C₁-C₆)alkylthio groups, halo(C₁-C₆)alkylthio groups, (C₁-C₆)alkylsulfinyl groups, halo(C₁-C₆)alkylsulfinyl groups, (C₁-C₆)alkylsulfonyl groups, halo(C₁-C₆)alkylsulfonyl groups, mono(C₁-C₆)alkylamino groups, di(C₁-C₆)alkylamino groups wherein the two alkyl groups may be the same or different, and (C₁-C₆)alkoxycarbonyl groups; or -A⁴-R⁹ (wherein A⁴ is -O-, -S-, -SO-, -SO₂-, -N(R⁸)- (R⁸ has the same definition as given above), -C(=O)- or -C(=NOR⁴)- (R⁴ has the same definition as given above);

(i) when A⁴ is -O-, -S-, -SO-, -SO₂- or -N(R⁸)- (R⁸ has the same definition as given above), R⁹ is a hydrogen atom; a (C₁-C₆)alkyl group; a halo(C₁-C₆)alkyl group; a (C₃-C₆)alkenyl group; a halo(C₃-C₆)alkenyl group; a (C₃-C₆)alkynyl

group; a halo(C_3 - C_6)alkynyl group; a (C_3 - C_6)cycloalkyl group; a halo(C_3 - C_6)cycloalkyl group; a (C_1 - C_6)alkylcarbonyl group; a halo(C_1 - C_6)-alkylcarbonyl group; a (C_1 - C_6)alkoxycarbonyl group; a phenyl group; a substituted phenyl group having one or more same or different substituents selected from halogen atoms, cyano group, nitro group, (C_1 - C_6)alkyl groups, halo(C_1 - C_6)alkyl groups, (C_1 - C_6)alkoxy groups, halo(C_1 - C_6)alkoxy groups, (C_1 - C_6)alkylthio groups, halo(C_1 - C_6)alkylthio groups, (C_1 - C_6)alkylsulfinyl groups, halo(C_1 - C_6)alkylsulfinyl groups, (C_1 - C_6)alkylsulfonyl groups, halo(C_1 - C_6)alkylsulfonyl groups, mono(C_1 - C_6)alkylamino groups, di(C_1 - C_6)alkylamino groups wherein the two alkyl groups may be the same or different, and (C_1 - C_6)alkoxycarbonyl groups; a phenyl(C_1 - C_4)alkyl group; a substituted phenyl(C_1 - C_4)alkyl group having, on the ring, one or more same or different substituents selected from halogen atoms, cyano group, nitro group, (C_1 - C_6)alkyl groups, halo(C_1 - C_6)alkyl groups, (C_1 - C_6)alkoxy groups, halo(C_1 - C_6)alkoxy groups, (C_1 - C_6)alkylthio groups, halo(C_1 - C_6)alkylthio groups, (C_1 - C_6)alkylsulfinyl groups, halo(C_1 - C_6)alkylsulfinyl groups, (C_1 - C_6)alkylsulfonyl groups, halo(C_1 - C_6)alkylsulfonyl groups, mono(C_1 - C_6)alkylamino groups, di(C_1 - C_6)alkylamino groups wherein the two alkyl groups may be the same or different, and (C_1 - C_6)alkoxycarbonyl groups; a heterocyclic group; or a substituted heterocyclic group having one or more same or different substituents selected from halogen atoms, cyano group, nitro group, (C_1 - C_6)alkyl groups, halo(C_1 - C_6)alkyl groups, (C_1 - C_6)-alkoxy groups, halo(C_1 - C_6)alkoxy groups, (C_1 - C_6)alkylthio groups, halo(C_1 - C_6)alkylthio groups, (C_1 - C_6)alkylthio groups, (C_1 - C_6)alkylsulfinyl groups, halo(C_1 - C_6)alkylsulfinyl groups, (C_1 - C_6)-alkylsulfonyl groups, halo(C_1 - C_6)alkylsulfonyl groups, mono(C_1 - C_6)alkylamino groups, di(C_1 - C_6)alkylamino groups wherein the two alkyl groups may be the same or different, and (C_1 - C_6)alkoxycarbonyl groups;

(ii) when A⁴ is -C(=O)- or -C(=N-OR⁴)- (R⁴ has the same definition as given above), R⁹ is a hydrogen atom; a (C₁-C₆)alkyl group; a halo(C₁-C₆)alkyl group; a (C₂-C₆)alkenyl group; a halo(C₂-C₆)alkenyl group; a (C₃-C₆)cycloalkyl group; a halo(C₃-C₆)cycloalkyl group; a (C₁-C₆)alkoxy group; a halo(C₁-C₆)alkoxy group; a (C₁-C₆)alkylthio group; a halo(C₁-C₆)alkylthio group; a mono(C₁-C₆)alkylamino group; a di(C₁-C₆)alkylamino group wherein the two alkyl groups may be the same or different; a phenyl group; a substituted phenyl group having one or more same or different substituents selected from halogen atoms, cyano group, nitro group, (C₁-C₆)alkyl groups, halo(C₁-C₆)alkyl groups, (C₁-C₆)-alkoxy groups, halo(C₁-C₆)alkoxy groups, (C₁-C₆)alkylthio groups, halo(C₁-C₆)alkylthio groups, (C₁-C₆)alkylsulfinyl groups, halo(C₁-C₆)alkylsulfinyl groups, (C₁-C₆)-alkylsulfonyl groups, halo(C₁-C₆)alkylsulfonyl groups, mono(C₁-C₆)alkylamino groups, di(C₁-C₆)alkylamino groups wherein the two alkyl groups may be the same or different, and (C₁-C₆)alkoxycarbonyl groups; a phenylamino group; a substituted phenylamino group having, on the ring, one or more same or different substituents selected from halogen atoms, cyano group, nitro group, (C₁-C₆)alkyl groups, halo(C₁-C₆)alkyl groups, (C₁-C₆)alkoxy groups, halo(C₁-C₆)alkoxy groups, (C₁-C₆)alkylthio groups, halo(C₁-C₆)alkylthio groups, (C₁-C₆)alkylsulfinyl groups, halo(C₁-C₆)alkylsulfinyl groups, (C₁-C₆)alkylsulfonyl groups, halo(C₁-C₆)alkylsulfonyl groups, mono(C₁-C₆)alkylamino groups, di(C₁-C₆)alkylamino groups wherein the two alkyl groups may be the same or different, and (C₁-C₆)alkoxycarbonyl groups; a phenoxy group; a substituted phenoxy group having one or more same or different substituents selected from halogen atoms, cyano group, nitro group, (C₁-C₆)alkyl groups, halo(C₁-C₆)alkyl groups, (C₁-C₆)alkoxy groups, halo(C₁-C₆)alkoxy groups, (C₁-C₆)alkylthio groups, halo(C₁-C₆)alkylthio groups, (C₁-C₆)alkylsulfinyl

groups, halo(C₁-C₆)alkylsulfinyl groups, (C₁-C₆)alkylsulfonyl groups, halo(C₁-C₆)alkylsulfonyl groups, mono(C₁-C₆)alkylamino groups, di(C₁-C₆)alkylamino groups wherein the two alkyl groups may be the same or different, and (C₁-C₆)alkoxycarbonyl groups; a phenylthio group; a substituted phenylthio group having, on the ring, one or more same or different substituents selected from halogen atoms, cyano group, nitro group, (C₁-C₆)alkyl groups, halo(C₁-C₆)alkyl groups, (C₁-C₆)alkoxy groups, halo(C₁-C₆)alkoxy groups, (C₁-C₆)alkylthio groups, halo(C₁-C₆)alkylthio groups, (C₁-C₆)alkylsulfinyl groups, halo(C₁-C₆)alkylsulfinyl groups, (C₁-C₆)alkylsulfonyl groups, halo(C₁-C₆)alkylsulfonyl groups, mono(C₁-C₆)alkylamino groups, di(C₁-C₆)alkylamino groups wherein the two alkyl groups may be the same or different, and (C₁-C₆)alkoxycarbonyl groups; a heterocyclic group; or a substituted heterocyclic group having one or more same or different substituents selected from halogen atoms, cyano group, nitro group, (C₁-C₆)alkyl groups, halo(C₁-C₆)alkyl groups, (C₁-C₆)alkoxy groups, halo(C₁-C₆)alkoxy groups, (C₁-C₆)alkylthio groups, halo(C₁-C₆)alkylthio groups, (C₁-C₆)alkylsulfinyl groups, halo(C₁-C₆)alkylsulfinyl groups, (C₁-C₆)alkylsulfonyl groups, halo(C₁-C₆)alkylsulfonyl groups, mono(C₁-C₆)alkylamino groups, di(C₁-C₆)alkylamino groups wherein the two alkyl groups may be the same or different, and (C₁-C₆)alkoxycarbonyl groups)];

R² may bond with A¹ or R¹ to form a 4- to 7-membered ring which may contain, as a ring-constituting atom(s), one or two same or different atoms selected from oxygen, sulfur and nitrogen atoms;

Q¹ to Q⁴ may be the same or different and are each a nitrogen atom or a carbon atom which may be substituted with X, and X may be the same or different, and is a halogen atom; a cyano group; a nitro group; a (C₃-C₆)cycloalkyl group; a halo(C₃-C₆)cycloalkyl group; a (C₁-C₆)alkoxycarbonyl group; a phenyl

group; a substituted phenyl group having one or more same or different substituents selected from halogen atoms, cyano group, nitro group, (C_1 - C_6)alkyl groups, halo(C_1 - C_6)alkyl groups, (C_1 - C_6)alkoxy groups, halo(C_1 - C_6)alkoxy groups, (C_1 - C_6)alkylthio groups, halo(C_1 - C_6)alkylthio groups, (C_1 - C_6)alkylsulfinyl groups, halo(C_1 - C_6)alkylsulfinyl groups, (C_1 - C_6)alkylsulfonyl groups, halo(C_1 - C_6)alkylsulfonyl groups, mono(C_1 - C_6)alkylamino groups, di(C_1 - C_6)alkylamino groups wherein the two alkyl groups may be the same or different, and (C_1 - C_6)alkoxycarbonyl groups; a heterocyclic group; a substituted heterocyclic group having one or more same or different substituents selected from halogen atoms, cyano group, nitro group, (C_1 - C_6)alkyl groups, halo(C_1 - C_6)alkyl groups, (C_1 - C_6)alkoxy groups, halo(C_1 - C_6)alkoxy groups, (C_1 - C_6)alkylthio groups, halo(C_1 - C_6)alkylthio groups, (C_1 - C_6)alkylsulfinyl groups, halo(C_1 - C_6)-alkylsulfinyl groups, (C_1 - C_6)alkylsulfonyl groups, halo(C_1 - C_6)alkylsulfonyl groups, mono(C_1 - C_6)alkylamino groups, di(C_1 - C_6)alkylamino groups wherein the two alkyl groups may be the same or different, and (C_1 - C_6)-alkoxycarbonyl groups; or - A^5 - R^{10} [wherein A^5 is -O-, -S-, -SO-, -SO₂-, -C(=O)-, -C(=NOR⁴)- (R⁴ has the same definition as given above), a (C_1 - C_6)alkylene group, a halo(C_1 - C_6)alkylene group, a (C_2 - C_6)alkenylene group, a halo(C_2 - C_6)alkenylene group, a (C_2 - C_6)alkynylene group or a halo(C_2 - C_6)alkynylene group;

(1) when A^5 is -O-, -S-, -SO- or -SO₂-, R^{10} is a halo(C_3 - C_6)cycloalkyl group; a halo(C_3 - C_6)cycloalkenyl group; a phenyl group; a substituted phenyl group having one or more same or different substituents selected from halogen atoms, cyano group, nitro group, (C_1 - C_6)alkyl groups, halo(C_1 - C_6)alkyl groups, (C_1 - C_6)-alkoxy groups, halo(C_1 - C_6)alkoxy groups, (C_1 - C_6)alkylthio groups, halo(C_1 - C_6)alkylthio groups, (C_1 - C_6)alkylsulfinyl groups, halo(C_1 - C_6)alkylsulfinyl groups, (C_1 - C_6)alkylsulfonyl groups, halo(C_1 - C_6)alkylsulfonyl groups,

C_6)-alkylsulfonyl groups, halo(C_1 - C_6)alkylsulfonyl groups, mono(C_1 - C_6)alkylamino groups, di(C_1 - C_6)alkylamino groups wherein the two alkyl groups may be the same or different, and (C_1 - C_6)alkoxycarbonyl groups; a heterocyclic group; a substituted heterocyclic group having one or more same or different substituents selected from halogen atoms, cyano group, nitro group, (C_1 - C_6)alkyl groups, halo(C_1 - C_6)alkyl groups, (C_1 - C_6)alkoxy groups, halo(C_1 - C_6)alkoxy groups, (C_1 - C_6)alkylthio groups, halo(C_1 - C_6)alkylthio groups, (C_1 - C_6)alkylsulfinyl groups, halo(C_1 - C_6)alkylsulfinyl groups, (C_1 - C_6)alkylsulfonyl groups, halo(C_1 - C_6)alkylsulfonyl groups, mono(C_1 - C_6)alkylamino groups, di(C_1 - C_6)alkylamino groups wherein the two alkyl groups may be the same or different, and (C_1 - C_6)alkoxycarbonyl groups; or - A^6 - R^{11} (wherein A^6 is a (C_1 - C_6)alkylene group, a halo(C_1 - C_6)-alkylene group, a (C_3 - C_6)alkenylene group, a halo(C_3 - C_6)-alkenylene group, a (C_3 - C_6)alkynylene group or a halo(C_3 - C_6)alkynylene group, and R^{11} is a hydrogen atom; a halogen atom; a (C_3 - C_6)cycloalkyl group; a halo(C_3 - C_6)-cycloalkyl group; a (C_1 - C_6)alkoxycarbonyl group; a phenyl group; a substituted phenyl group having one or more same or different substituents selected from halogen atoms, cyano group, nitro group, (C_1 - C_6)alkyl groups, halo(C_1 - C_6)alkyl groups, (C_1 - C_6)alkoxy groups, halo(C_1 - C_6)alkoxy groups, (C_1 - C_6)alkylthio groups, halo(C_1 - C_6)alkylthio groups, (C_1 - C_6)alkylsulfinyl groups, halo(C_1 - C_6)alkylsulfinyl groups, (C_1 - C_6)alkylsulfonyl groups, halo(C_1 - C_6)alkylsulfonyl groups, mono(C_1 - C_6)alkylamino groups, di(C_1 - C_6)alkylamino groups wherein the two alkyl groups may be the same or different, and (C_1 - C_6)alkoxycarbonyl groups; or - A^7 - R^{12} (wherein A^7 is

-O-, -S-, -SO- or -SO₂-, and R^{12} is a (C_1 - C_6)alkyl group; a halo(C_1 - C_6)alkyl group; a (C_3 - C_6)alkenyl group; a halo(C_3 - C_6)alkenyl group; a (C_3 - C_6)alkynyl group; a halo(C_3 - C_6)alkynyl group; a (C_3 - C_6)cycloalkyl group; a halo(C_3 - C_6)-cycloalkyl group;

a phenyl group; a substituted phenyl group having one or more same or different substituents selected from halogen atoms, cyano group, nitro group, (C_1 - C_6)alkyl groups, halo(C_1 - C_6)alkyl groups, (C_1 - C_6)alkoxy groups, halo(C_1 - C_6)alkoxy groups, (C_1 - C_6)alkylthio groups, halo(C_1 - C_6)alkylthio groups, (C_1 - C_6)alkylsulfinyl groups, halo(C_1 - C_6)-alkylsulfinyl groups, (C_1 - C_6)alkylsulfonyl groups, halo(C_1 - C_6)-alkylsulfonyl groups, mono(C_1 - C_6)alkylamino groups, di(C_1 - C_6)alkylamino groups wherein the two alkyl groups may be the same or different, and (C_1 - C_6)-alkoxycarbonyl groups; a heterocyclic group; or a substituted heterocyclic group having one or more same or different substituents selected from halogen atoms, cyano group, nitro group, (C_1 - C_6)alkyl groups, halo(C_1 - C_6)alkyl groups, (C_1 - C_6)alkoxy groups, halo(C_1 - C_6)alkoxy groups, (C_1 - C_6)alkylthio groups, halo(C_1 - C_6)-alkylthio groups, (C_1 - C_6)alkylsulfinyl groups, halo(C_1 - C_6)-alkylsulfinyl groups, (C_1 - C_6)alkylsulfonyl groups, halo(C_1 - C_6)-alkylsulfonyl groups, mono(C_1 - C_6)alkylamino groups, di(C_1 - C_6)alkylamino groups wherein the two alkyl groups may be the same or different, and (C_1 - C_6)-alkoxycarbonyl groups);

(2) when A^5 is $-C(=O)-$ or $-C(=NOR^4)-$ (R^4 has the same definition as given above), R^{10} is a (C_1 - C_6)-alkyl group; a halo(C_1 - C_6)alkyl group; a (C_2 - C_6)alkenyl group; a halo(C_2 - C_6)alkenyl group; a (C_3 - C_6)cycloalkyl group; a halo(C_3 - C_6)cycloalkyl group; a (C_1 - C_6)alkoxy group; a (C_1 - C_6)alkylthio group; a mono(C_1 - C_6)alkylamino group; a di(C_1 - C_6)alkylamino group wherein the two alkyl groups may be the same or different; a phenyl group; a substituted phenyl group having one or more same or different substituents selected from halogen atoms, cyano group, nitro group, (C_1 - C_6)alkyl groups, halo(C_1 - C_6)alkyl groups, (C_1 - C_6)alkoxy groups, halo(C_1 - C_6)alkoxy groups, (C_1 - C_6)alkylthio groups, halo(C_1 - C_6)alkylthio groups, (C_1 - C_6)alkylsulfinyl groups, halo(C_1 - C_6)-alkylsulfinyl groups, (C_1 - C_6)alkylsulfonyl groups,

halo(C_1 - C_6)alkylsulfonyl groups, mono(C_1 - C_6)alkylamino groups, di(C_1 - C_6)alkylamino groups wherein the two alkyl groups may be the same or different, and (C_1 - C_6)-alkoxycarbonyl groups; a phenylamino group; a substituted phenylamino group having, on the ring, one or more same or different substituents selected from halogen atoms, cyano group, nitro group, (C_1 - C_6)alkyl groups, halo(C_1 - C_6)alkyl groups, (C_1 - C_6)alkoxy groups, halo(C_1 - C_6)alkoxy groups, (C_1 - C_6)alkylthio groups, halo(C_1 - C_6)alkylthio groups, (C_1 - C_6)alkylsulfinyl groups, halo(C_1 - C_6)alkylsulfinyl groups, (C_1 - C_6)alkylsulfonyl groups, halo(C_1 - C_6)alkylsulfonyl groups, mono(C_1 - C_6)-alkylamino groups, di(C_1 - C_6)alkylamino groups wherein the two alkyl groups may be the same or different, and (C_1 - C_6)-alkoxycarbonyl groups; a heterocyclic group; or a substituted heterocyclic group having one or more same or different substituents selected from halogen atoms, cyano group, nitro group, (C_1 - C_6)alkyl groups, halo(C_1 - C_6)alkyl groups, (C_1 - C_6)alkoxy groups, halo(C_1 - C_6)alkoxy groups, (C_1 - C_6)alkylthio groups, halo(C_1 - C_6)alkylthio groups, (C_1 - C_6)alkylsulfinyl groups, halo(C_1 - C_6)-alkylsulfinyl groups, (C_1 - C_6)alkylsulfonyl groups, halo(C_1 - C_6)alkylsulfonyl groups, mono(C_1 - C_6)alkylamino groups, di(C_1 - C_6)alkylamino groups wherein the two alkyl groups may be the same or different, and (C_1 - C_6)-alkoxycarbonyl groups;

(3) when A^5 is a (C_1 - C_6)alkylene group, a halo(C_1 - C_6)alkylene group, a (C_2 - C_6)alkenylene group, a halo(C_2 - C_6)alkenylene group, a (C_2 - C_6)alkynylene group or a halo(C_2 - C_6)alkynylene group, R^{10} is a hydrogen atom; a halogen atom; a (C_3 - C_6)cycloalkyl group; a halo(C_3 - C_6)cycloalkyl group; a (C_1 - C_6)-alkoxycarbonyl group; a phenyl group; a substituted phenyl group having one or more same or different substituents selected from halogen atoms, cyano group, nitro group, (C_1 - C_6)alkyl groups, halo(C_1 - C_6)alkyl groups, (C_1 - C_6)alkoxy groups, halo(C_1 - C_6)alkoxy

groups, (C_1-C_6) alkylthio groups, halo (C_1-C_6) alkylthio groups, (C_1-C_6) alkylsulfinyl groups, halo (C_1-C_6) alkylsulfinyl groups, (C_1-C_6) alkylsulfonyl groups, halo (C_1-C_6) alkylsulfonyl groups, mono (C_1-C_6) alkylamino groups, di (C_1-C_6) alkylamino groups wherein the two alkyl groups may be the same or different, and (C_1-C_6) alkoxycarbonyl groups; a heterocyclic group; a substituted heterocyclic group having one or more same or different substituents selected from halogen atoms, cyano group, nitro group, (C_1-C_6) alkyl groups, halo (C_1-C_6) alkyl groups, (C_1-C_6) alkoxy groups, halo (C_1-C_6) alkoxy groups, (C_1-C_6) alkylthio groups, halo (C_1-C_6) alkylthio groups, (C_1-C_6) alkylsulfinyl groups, halo (C_1-C_6) alkylsulfinyl groups, (C_1-C_6) alkylsulfonyl groups, halo (C_1-C_6) alkylsulfonyl groups, mono (C_1-C_6) alkylamino groups, di (C_1-C_6) alkylamino groups wherein the two alkyl groups may be the same or different, and (C_1-C_6) -alkoxycarbonyl groups; or $-A^8-R^{13}$ (wherein A^8 is $-O-$, $-S-$, $-SO-$ or $-SO_2-$, and R^{13} is a (C_3-C_6) cycloalkyl group; a halo (C_3-C_6) cycloalkyl group; a phenyl group; a substituted phenyl group having one or more same or different substituents selected from halogen atoms, cyano group, nitro group, (C_1-C_6) alkyl groups, halo (C_1-C_6) alkyl groups, (C_1-C_6) alkoxy groups, halo (C_1-C_6) alkoxy groups, (C_1-C_6) alkylthio groups, halo (C_1-C_6) alkylthio groups, (C_1-C_6) alkylsulfinyl groups, halo (C_1-C_6) alkylsulfinyl groups, (C_1-C_6) alkylsulfonyl groups, halo (C_1-C_6) alkylsulfonyl groups, mono (C_1-C_6) alkylamino groups, di (C_1-C_6) alkylamino groups wherein the two alkyl groups may be the same or different, and (C_1-C_6) alkoxycarbonyl groups; a heterocyclic group; a substituted heterocyclic group having one or more same or different substituents selected from halogen atoms, cyano group, nitro group, (C_1-C_6) alkyl groups, halo (C_1-C_6) alkyl groups, (C_1-C_6) alkoxy groups, halo (C_1-C_6) alkoxy groups, (C_1-C_6) alkylthio groups, halo (C_1-C_6) alkylthio groups, halo (C_1-C_6)

C_6)alkylthio groups, (C_1-C_6) alkylsulfinyl groups, halo (C_1-C_6) -alkylsulfinyl groups, (C_1-C_6) alkylsulfonyl groups, halo (C_1-C_6) alkylsulfonyl groups, mono (C_1-C_6) alkylamino groups, di (C_1-C_6) alkylamino groups wherein the two alkyl groups may be the same or different, and (C_1-C_6) -alkoxycarbonyl groups; or -A⁹-R¹⁴ (wherein A⁹ is a (C_1-C_6) alkylene group, a halo (C_1-C_6) alkylene group, a (C_2-C_6) alkenylene group, a halo (C_2-C_6) alkenylene group, a (C_2-C_6) alkynylene group or a halo (C_3-C_5) alkynylene group, and R¹⁴ is a hydrogen atom; a halogen atom; a (C_3-C_6) cycloalkyl group; a halo (C_3-C_6) cycloalkyl group; a (C_1-C_6) alkoxy group; a halo (C_1-C_6) alkoxy group; a (C_1-C_6) alkylthio group; a halo (C_1-C_6) alkylthio group; a (C_1-C_6) alkylsulfinyl group; a halo (C_1-C_6) alkylsulfinyl group; a phenyl group; a substituted phenyl group having one or more same or different substituents selected from halogen atoms, cyano group, nitro group, (C_1-C_6) alkyl groups, halo (C_1-C_6) alkyl groups, (C_1-C_6) -alkoxy groups, halo (C_1-C_6) alkoxy groups, (C_1-C_6) alkylthio groups, halo (C_1-C_6) alkylthio groups, (C_1-C_6) alkylsulfinyl groups, halo (C_1-C_6) alkylsulfinyl groups, (C_1-C_6) -alkylsulfonyl groups, halo (C_1-C_6) alkylsulfonyl groups, halo (C_1-C_6) -alkylsulfonyl groups, mono (C_1-C_6) alkylamino groups, di (C_1-C_6) alkylamino groups wherein the two alkyl groups may be the same or different, and (C_1-C_6) alkoxycarbonyl groups; a phenoxy group; a substituted phenoxy group having one or more same or different substituents selected from halogen atoms, cyano group, nitro group, (C_1-C_6) alkyl groups, halo (C_1-C_6) alkyl groups, (C_1-C_6) -alkoxy groups, halo (C_1-C_6) alkoxy groups, (C_1-C_6) alkylthio groups, halo (C_1-C_6) alkylthio groups, halo (C_1-C_6) alkylsulfinyl groups, halo (C_1-C_6) alkylsulfinyl groups, (C_1-C_6) alkylsulfonyl groups, halo (C_1-C_6) alkylsulfonyl groups, mono (C_1-C_6) alkylamino groups, di (C_1-C_6) alkylamino groups wherein the two alkyl groups may be the same

or different, and (C_1 - C_6)alkoxycarbonyl groups; a phenylthio group; a substituted phenylthio group having one or more same or different substituents selected from halogen atoms, cyano group, nitro group, (C_1 - C_6)alkyl groups, halo(C_1 - C_6)alkyl groups, (C_1 - C_6)alkoxy groups, halo(C_1 - C_6)alkoxy groups, (C_1 - C_6)alkylthio groups, halo(C_1 - C_6)alkylthio groups, (C_1 - C_6)alkylsulfinyl groups, halo(C_1 - C_6)-alkylsulfinyl groups, (C_1 - C_6)alkylsulfonyl groups, halo(C_1 - C_6)alkylsulfonyl groups, mono(C_1 - C_6)alkylamino groups, di(C_1 - C_6)alkylamino groups wherein the two alkyl groups may be the same or different, and (C_1 - C_6)-alkoxycarbonyl groups; a heterocyclic group; or a substituted heterocyclic group having one or more same or different substituents selected from halogen atoms, cyano group, nitro group, (C_1 - C_6)alkyl groups, halo(C_1 - C_6)alkyl groups, (C_1 - C_6)alkoxy groups, halo(C_1 - C_6)alkoxy groups, (C_1 - C_6)alkylthio groups, halo(C_1 - C_6)alkylthio groups, (C_1 - C_6)alkylsulfinyl groups, halo(C_1 - C_6)-alkylsulfinyl groups, (C_1 - C_6)alkylsulfonyl groups, halo(C_1 - C_6)-alkylsulfonyl groups, mono(C_1 - C_6)alkylamino groups, di(C_1 - C_6)alkylamino groups wherein the two alkyl groups may be the same or different, and (C_1 - C_6)-alkoxycarbonyl groups));

the two Xs bonding to the adjacent two carbon atoms constituting the aromatic ring containing Q¹ to Q⁴ may bond to each other to form a condensed ring; the condensed ring may have one or more same or different substituents selected from halogen atoms, cyano group, nitro group, (C_1 - C_6)alkyl groups, halo(C_1 - C_6)alkyl groups, (C_1 - C_6)alkoxy groups, halo(C_1 - C_6)alkoxy groups, (C_1 - C_6)alkylthio groups, halo(C_1 - C_6)alkylthio groups, (C_1 - C_6)alkylsulfinyl groups, halo(C_1 - C_6)-alkylsulfinyl groups, (C_1 - C_6)alkylsulfonyl groups, halo(C_1 - C_6)-alkylsulfonyl groups, mono(C_1 - C_6)alkylamino groups, di(C_1 - C_6)alkylamino groups wherein the two alkyl groups may be the same or different, and (C_1 - C_6)alkoxycarbonyl groups;

Q^5 is a nitrogen atom or a carbon atom;

Y may be the same or different, and is a halogen atom; a cyano group; a nitro group; a halo(C_3 - C_6)cycloalkyl group; a phenyl group; a substituted phenyl group having one or more same or different substituents selected from halogen atoms, cyano group, nitro group, (C_1 - C_6)alkyl groups, halo(C_1 - C_6)alkyl groups, (C_1 - C_6)alkoxy groups, halo(C_1 - C_6)alkoxy groups, (C_1 - C_6)alkylthio groups, halo(C_1 - C_6)alkylthio groups, (C_1 - C_6)alkylsulfinyl groups, halo(C_1 - C_6)alkylsulfinyl groups, (C_1 - C_6)alkylsulfonyl groups, halo(C_1 - C_6)-alkylsulfonyl groups, mono(C_1 - C_6)alkylamino groups, di(C_1 - C_6)alkylamino groups wherein the two alkyl groups may be the same or different, and (C_1 - C_6)alkoxycarbonyl groups; a heterocyclic group; a substituted heterocyclic group having one or more same or different substituents selected from halogen atoms, cyano group, nitro group, (C_1 - C_6)alkyl groups, halo(C_1 - C_6)alkyl groups, (C_1 - C_6)alkoxy groups, halo(C_1 - C_6)alkoxy groups, (C_1 - C_6)alkylthio groups, halo(C_1 - C_6)alkylthio groups, (C_1 - C_6)alkylsulfinyl groups, halo(C_1 - C_6)alkylsulfinyl groups, (C_1 - C_6)alkylsulfonyl groups, halo(C_1 - C_6)-alkylsulfonyl groups, mono(C_1 - C_6)alkylamino groups, di(C_1 - C_6)alkylamino groups wherein the two alkyl groups may be the same or different, and (C_1 - C_6)alkoxycarbonyl groups; or - A^5 - R^{10} (A^5 and R^{10} each have the same definition as given above);

the two Y s bonding to the adjacent two carbon atoms constituting the aromatic ring containing Q^5 may bond to each other to form a condensed ring; the condensed ring may have one or more same or different substituents selected from halogen atoms, (C_1 - C_6)alkyl groups, halo(C_1 - C_6)alkyl groups, (C_1 - C_6)alkoxy groups, halo(C_1 - C_6)alkoxy groups, (C_1 - C_6)alkylthio groups, halo(C_1 - C_6)alkylthio groups, (C_1 - C_6)alkylsulfinyl groups, halo(C_1 - C_6)alkylsulfinyl groups, (C_1 - C_6)alkylsulfonyl groups,

halo(C_1 - C_6)alkylsulfonyl groups, phenyl group, substituted phenyl groups having one or more same or different substituents selected from halogen atoms, cyano group, nitro group, (C_1 - C_6)alkyl groups, halo(C_1 - C_6)alkyl groups, (C_1 - C_6)alkoxy groups, halo(C_1 - C_6)alkoxy groups, (C_1 - C_6)alkylthio groups, halo(C_1 - C_6)alkylthio groups, (C_1 - C_6)alkylsulfinyl groups, halo(C_1 - C_6)-alkylsulfinyl groups, (C_1 - C_6)alkylsulfonyl groups, halo(C_1 - C_6)alkylsulfonyl groups, mono(C_1 - C_6)alkylamino groups, di(C_1 - C_6)alkylamino groups wherein the two alkyl groups may be the same or different, and (C_1 - C_6)-alkoxycarbonyl groups, heterocyclic groups, and substituted heterocyclic groups having one or more same or different substituents selected from halogen atoms, cyano group, nitro group, (C_1 - C_6)alkyl groups, halo(C_1 - C_6)alkyl groups, (C_1 - C_6)alkoxy groups, halo(C_1 - C_6)alkoxy groups, (C_1 - C_6)alkylthio groups, halo(C_1 - C_6)alkylthio groups, (C_1 - C_6)alkylsulfinyl groups, halo(C_1 - C_6)-alkylsulfinyl groups, (C_1 - C_6)alkylsulfonyl groups, halo(C_1 - C_6)alkylsulfonyl groups, mono(C_1 - C_6)alkylamino groups, di(C_1 - C_6)alkylamino groups wherein the two alkyl groups may be the same or different, and (C_1 - C_6)-alkoxycarbonyl groups;

m is an integer of 0 to 5;

Z^1 and Z^2 may be the same or different and are each an oxygen atom or a sulfur atom [;

provided that (1) when each of Q^1 , Q^2 , Q^3 , Q^4 and Q^5 simultaneously represents a carbon atom, each of R^2 and R^3 simultaneously represents a hydrogen atom, each of Z^1 and Z^2 simultaneously represents an oxygen atom, X is an iodine atom, m is an integer of 2, Y is 2-methyl group or 4-pentafluoroethyl group, A^1 is $-CH_2CH_2-$ and B is $-CO-$; then R^1 is not an ethoxy group;

(2) when each of Q^1 , Q^2 , Q^3 , Q^4 and Q^5 simultaneously represents a carbon

atom, each of R² and R³ simultaneously represents a hydrogen atom, each of Z¹ and Z² simultaneously represents an oxygen atom, X is an iodine atom, m is an integer of 2, Y is 2-methyl group or 4-heptafluoroisopropyl group, A¹ is –CH₂CH₂- and B is –CO-; then R¹ is not an ethoxy group;

(3) when Q¹ represents a nitrogen atom, each of Q², Q³, Q⁴ and Q⁵ simultaneously represents a carbon atom which does not have a substituent, each of R² and R³ simultaneously represents a hydrogen atom, each of Z¹ and Z² simultaneously represents an oxygen atom, m is an integer of 2, Y is 2-methyl group or 3-chloro group, A¹ is –CH₂CH₂CH₂- and B is –CO-; then R¹ is not an ethoxy group;

(4) when each of Q¹, Q², Q³, Q⁴ and Q⁵ simultaneously represents a carbon atom which does not have a substituent, each of R² and R³ simultaneously represents a hydrogen atom, each of Z¹ and Z² simultaneously represents an oxygen atom, m is an integer of 0, A¹ is –CHCH₂CH₂- and B is –CO-; COOCH₃ then R¹ is not a methoxy group}].

Claim 2. (Amended) An aromatic diamide [derivative] compoud

or a salt thereof according to claim 1, wherein A¹ is a (C₁-C₈)alkylene group; a substituted (C₁-C₈) alkylene group having one or more same or different substituents selected from halogen atoms, cyano group, nitro group, halo(C₁-C₆)alkyl groups, (C₁-C₆)alkoxy groups, halo(C₁-C₆)alkoxy groups, (C₁-C₆)alkylthio groups, halo(C₁-C₆)-alkylthio groups, (C₁-C₆)alkylsulfinyl groups, halo(C₁-C₆)alkylsulfinyl groups, (C₁-C₆)alkylsulfonyl groups, halo(C₁-C₆)alkylsulfonyl groups,

(C₁-C₆)alkylthio(C₁-C₆)alkyl groups, (C₁-C₆)alkoxycarbonyl groups and phenyl group; a (C₃-C₈)alkenylene group; a substituted (C₃-C₈)alkenylene group having one or more same or different substituents selected from halogen atoms, cyano group, nitro group, halo(C₁-C₆)alkyl groups, (C₁-C₆)alkoxy groups, halo(C₁-C₆)alkoxy groups, (C₁-C₆)alkylthio groups, halo(C₁-C₆)alkylthio groups, (C₁-C₆)-alkylsulfonyl groups, halo(C₁-C₆)alkylsulfinyl groups, halo(C₁-C₆)alkylsulfinyl groups, (C₁-C₆)-alkylsulfonyl groups, halo(C₁-C₆)alkylsulfonyl groups, (C₁-C₆)alkylthio(C₁-C₆)alkyl groups, (C₁-C₆)alkoxycarbonyl groups and phenyl group; a (C₃-C₈)alkynylene group; or a substituted (C₃-C₈)alkynylene group having one or more same or different substituents selected from halogen atoms, cyano group, nitro group, halo(C₁-C₆)alkyl groups, (C₁-C₆)alkoxy groups, halo(C₁-C₆)alkoxy groups, (C₁-C₆)alkylthio groups, halo(C₁-C₆)alkylthio groups, (C₁-C₆)alkylsulfinyl groups, halo(C₁-C₆)alkylsulfinyl groups, (C₁-C₆)alkylsulfonyl groups, halo(C₁-C₆)-alkylsulfonyl groups, (C₁-C₆)alkylthio(C₁-C₆)alkyl groups, (C₁-C₆)alkoxycarbonyl groups and phenyl group;

in the (C₁-C₈)alkylene group, the substituted (C₁-C₈)alkylene group, the (C₃-C₈)alkenylene group, the substituted (C₃-C₈)alkenylene group, the (C₃-C₈)-alkynylene group or the substituted (C₃-C₈)alkynylene group, any saturated carbon atom may be substituted with a (C₂-C₅)alkylene group to form a (C₃-C₆)cycloalkane ring; further in the (C₁-C₈)alkylene group, the substituted (C₁-C₈) alkylene group, the (C₃-C₈)alkenylene group or the substituted (C₃-C₈) alkenylene group, any two carbon atoms may be combined with an alkylene group or an alkenylene group to form a (C₃-C₆)cycloalkane ring or a (C₃-C₆)cycloalkene ring;

B is [-CO- or] -C(=N-OR⁴)- (wherein R⁴ is a hydrogen atom; a (C₁-C₆)alkyl group; a halo(C₁-C₆)alkyl group; a (C₃-C₆)alkenyl group; a halo(C₃-

C_6)alkenyl group; a (C_3-C_6) alkynyl group; a (C_3-C_6) cycloalkyl group; a phenyl(C_1-C_4)alkyl group; or a substituted phenyl(C_1-C_4)alkyl group having, on the ring, one or more same or different substituents selected from halogen atoms, cyano group, nitro group, (C_1-C_6) alkyl groups, halo(C_1-C_6)alkyl groups, (C_1-C_6) alkoxy groups, halo(C_1-C_6)alkoxy groups, (C_1-C_6) alkylthio groups, halo(C_1-C_6)alkylthio groups, (C_1-C_6) alkylsulfinyl groups, halo(C_1-C_6)-alkylsulfinyl groups, (C_1-C_6) alkylsulfonyl groups, halo(C_1-C_6)alkylsulfonyl groups, mono(C_1-C_6)alkylamino groups, di(C_1-C_6)alkylamino groups wherein the two alkyl groups may be the same or different, and (C_1-C_6) alkoxycarbonyl groups);

R^1 is a hydrogen atom; a (C_1-C_6) alkyl group; a halo(C_1-C_6)alkyl group; a (C_2-C_6) alkenyl group; a halo(C_2-C_6)alkenyl group; a (C_3-C_6) cycloalkyl group; a halo(C_3-C_6)cycloalkyl group; a (C_1-C_6) alkoxy group; a halo(C_1-C_6)alkoxy group; a (C_1-C_6) alkylthio group; a halo(C_1-C_6)alkylthio group; a mono(C_1-C_6)alkylamino group; a di(C_1-C_6)alkylamino group wherein the two alkyl groups may be the same or different; a phenyl group; a substituted phenyl group having one or more same or different substituents selected from halogen atoms, cyano group, nitro group, (C_1-C_6) alkyl groups, halo(C_1-C_6)alkyl groups, (C_1-C_6) alkoxy groups, halo(C_1-C_6)alkoxy groups, (C_1-C_6) alkylthio groups, halo(C_1-C_6)alkylthio groups, (C_1-C_6) alkylsulfinyl groups, halo(C_1-C_6)-alkylsulfinyl groups, (C_1-C_6) alkylsulfonyl groups, halo(C_1-C_6)alkylsulfonyl groups, mono(C_1-C_6)alkylamino groups, di(C_1-C_6)alkylamino groups wherein the two alkyl groups may be the same or different, and (C_1-C_6) -alkoxycarbonyl groups; a phenylamino group; a substituted phenylamino group having, on the ring, one or more same or different substituents selected from halogen atoms, cyano group, nitro group, (C_1-C_6) alkyl groups, halo(C_1-C_6)alkyl groups, (C_1-C_6) alkoxy groups, halo(C_1-C_6)alkoxy groups, (C_1-C_6)

C_6)alkylthio groups, halo(C_1 - C_6)alkylthio groups, (C_1 - C_6)alkylsulfinyl groups, halo(C_1 - C_6)alkylsulfinyl groups, (C_1 - C_6)alkylsulfonyl groups, halo(C_1 - C_6)alkylsulfonyl groups, mono(C_1 - C_6)-alkylamino groups, di(C_1 - C_6)alkylamino groups wherein the two alkyl groups may be the same or different, and (C_1 - C_6)alkoxycarbonyl groups; a phenoxy group; a substituted phenoxy group having one or more same or different substituents selected from halogen atoms, cyano group, nitro group, (C_1 - C_6)alkyl groups, halo(C_1 - C_6)alkyl groups, (C_1 - C_6)alkoxy groups, halo(C_1 - C_6)alkoxy groups, (C_1 - C_6)alkylthio groups, halo(C_1 - C_6)alkylthio groups, (C_1 - C_6)alkylsulfinyl groups, halo(C_1 - C_6)-alkylsulfinyl groups, (C_1 - C_6)alkylsulfonyl groups, halo(C_1 - C_6)-alkylsulfonyl groups, halo(C_1 - C_6)alkylsulfonyl groups, mono(C_1 - C_6)alkylamino groups, di(C_1 - C_6)alkylamino groups wherein the two alkyl groups may be the same or different, and (C_1 - C_6)-alkoxycarbonyl groups; a phenylthio group; a substituted phenylthio group having one or more same or different substituents selected from halogen atoms, cyano group, nitro group, (C_1 - C_6)alkyl groups, halo(C_1 - C_6)alkyl groups, (C_1 - C_6)alkoxy groups, halo(C_1 - C_6)alkoxy groups, (C_1 - C_6)alkylthio groups, halo(C_1 - C_6)alkylthio groups, (C_1 - C_6)alkylsulfinyl groups, halo(C_1 - C_6)-alkylsulfinyl groups, (C_1 - C_6)alkylsulfonyl groups, halo(C_1 - C_6)alkylsulfonyl groups, mono(C_1 - C_6)alkylamino groups, di(C_1 - C_6)alkylamino groups wherein the two alkyl groups may be the same or different, and (C_1 - C_6)-alkoxycarbonyl groups; a heterocyclic group; or a substituted heterocyclic group having one or more same or different substituents selected from halogen atoms, cyano group, nitro group, (C_1 - C_6)alkyl groups, halo(C_1 - C_6)alkyl groups, (C_1 - C_6)alkoxy groups, halo(C_1 - C_6)alkoxy groups, (C_1 - C_6)alkylthio groups, halo(C_1 - C_6)alkylthio groups, (C_1 - C_6)alkylsulfinyl groups, halo(C_1 - C_6)-alkylsulfinyl groups, (C_1 - C_6)alkylsulfonyl groups, halo(C_1 - C_6)-alkylsulfonyl groups, halo(C_1 - C_6)alkylsulfonyl groups, mono(C_1 - C_6)alkylamino groups, di(C_1 - C_6)alkylamino

groups wherein the two alkyl groups may be the same or different, and (C₁-C₆)-alkoxycarbonyl groups;

R¹ may bond with A¹ to form a 4- to 7-membered ring which may contain, as a ring-constituting atom(s), one or two same or different atoms selected from oxygen, sulfur and nitrogen atoms;

R² and R³ may be the same or different and are each a hydrogen atom or a (C₁-C₆)alkyl group;

Q¹ to Q⁴ may be the same or different and are each a nitrogen atom or a carbon atom which may be substituted with X; X may be the same or different, and is a halogen atom, a nitro group, a (C₁-C₆)alkyl group, a halo(C₁-C₆)alkyl group, a (C₂-C₆)alkenyl group, a halo(C₂-C₆)alkenyl group, a (C₂-C₆)alkynyl group, a halo(C₂-C₆)alkynyl group, a halo(C₁-C₆)alkoxy group or a halo(C₁-C₆)alkylthio group; the two Xs bonding to the adjacent two carbon atoms constituting the aromatic ring containing Q¹ to Q⁴ may bond to each other to form a condensed ring; the condensed ring may have one or more same or different substituents selected from halogen atoms, (C₁-C₆)alkyl groups, halo(C₁-C₆)alkyl groups, (C₁-C₆)alkoxy groups, halo(C₁-C₆)alkoxy groups, (C₁-C₆)alkylthio groups, halo(C₁-C₆)alkylthio groups, (C₁-C₆)alkylsulfinyl groups, halo(C₁-C₆)alkylsulfinyl groups, (C₁-C₆)alkylsulfonyl groups and halo(C₁-C₆)-alkylsulfonyl groups;

Q⁵ is a nitrogen atom or a carbon atom;

Y may be the same or different when it is more than one, and is a halogen atom; a cyano group; a nitro group; a halo(C₃-C₆)cycloalkyl group; a phenyl group; a substituted phenyl group having one or more same or different substituents selected from halogen atoms, cyano group, nitro group, (C₁-C₆)alkyl groups, halo(C₁-C₆)alkyl groups, (C₁-C₆)alkoxy groups, halo(C₁-C₆)alkoxy groups,

(C₁-C₆)alkylthio groups, halo(C₁-C₆)alkylthio groups, (C₁-C₆)alkylsulfinyl groups, halo(C₁-C₆)alkylsulfinyl groups, (C₁-C₆)alkylsulfonyl groups, halo(C₁-C₆)alkylsulfonyl groups, mono(C₁-C₆)-alkylamino groups, di(C₁-C₆)alkylamino groups wherein the two alkyl groups may be the same or different, and (C₁-C₆)alkoxycarbonyl groups; a heterocyclic group; a substituted heterocyclic group having one or more same or different substituents selected from halogen atoms, cyano group, nitro group, (C₁-C₆)alkyl groups, halo(C₁-C₆)alkyl groups, (C₁-C₆)alkoxy groups, halo(C₁-C₆)alkoxy groups, (C₁-C₆)alkylthio groups, halo(C₁-C₆)alkylthio groups, (C₁-C₆)alkylsulfinyl groups, halo(C₁-C₆)-alkylsulfinyl groups, (C₁-C₆)alkylsulfonyl groups, halo(C₁-C₆)alkylsulfonyl groups, mono(C₁-C₆)alkylamino groups, di(C₁-C₆)alkylamino groups wherein the two alkyl groups may be the same or different, and (C₁-C₆)-alkoxycarbonyl groups; or -A⁵-R¹⁰ (A⁵ and R¹⁰ each have the same definition as given in claim 1);

the two Ys bonding to the adjacent two carbon atoms constituting the aromatic ring containing Q⁵ may bond to each other to form a condensed ring; the condensed ring may have one or more same or different substituents selected from halogen atoms, (C₁-C₆)alkyl groups, halo(C₁-C₆)alkyl groups, (C₁-C₆)alkoxy groups, halo(C₁-C₆)alkoxy groups, (C₁-C₆)alkylthio groups, halo(C₁-C₆)alkylthio groups, (C₁-C₆)alkylsulfinyl groups, halo(C₁-C₆)alkylsulfinyl groups, (C₁-C₆)alkylsulfonyl groups, halo(C₁-C₆)alkylsulfonyl groups, phenyl group, substituted phenyl groups having one or more same or different substituents selected from halogen atoms, cyano group, nitro group, (C₁-C₆)alkyl groups, halo(C₁-C₆)alkyl groups, (C₁-C₆)alkoxy groups, halo(C₁-C₆)alkoxy groups, (C₁-C₆)alkylthio groups, halo(C₁-C₆)alkylthio groups, (C₁-C₆)alkylsulfinyl groups, halo(C₁-C₆)-alkylsulfinyl groups, (C₁-C₆)alkylsulfonyl groups, halo(C₁-C₆)alkylsulfonyl groups, mono(C₁-C₆)alkylamino

groups, di(C₁-C₆)alkylamino groups wherein the two alkyl groups may be the same or different, and (C₁-C₆)-alkoxycarbonyl groups, heterocyclic groups, and substituted heterocyclic groups having one or more same or different substituents selected from halogen atoms, cyano group, nitro group, (C₁-C₆)alkyl groups, halo(C₁-C₆)alkyl groups, (C₁-C₆)alkoxy groups, halo(C₁-C₆)alkoxy groups, (C₁-C₆)alkylthio groups, halo(C₁-C₆)alkylthio groups, (C₁-C₆)alkylsulfinyl groups, halo(C₁-C₆)-alkylsulfinyl groups, (C₁-C₆)alkylsulfonyl groups, halo(C₁-C₆)alkylsulfonyl groups, mono(C₁-C₆)alkylamino groups, di(C₁-C₆)alkylamino groups wherein the two alkyl groups may be the same or different, and (C₁-C₆)-alkoxycarbonyl groups;

m is an integer of 0 to 5;

Z¹ and Z² are each an oxygen atom.

Claim 3. (Amended) An aromatic diamide [derivative] compound or a salt thereof according to claim 2, wherein A¹ is a (C₁-C₈)-alkylene group; a substituted (C₁-C₈) alkylene group having one or more same or different substituents selected form halogen atoms, cyano group, nitro group, halo(C₁-C₆)alkyl groups, (C₁-C₆)alkoxy groups, halo(C₁-C₆)alkoxy groups, (C₁-C₆)alkylthio groups, halo(C₁-C₆)alkylthio groups, (C₁-C₆)alkylsulfinyl groups, halo(C₁-C₆)alkylsulfinyl groups, (C₁-C₆)alkylsulfonyl groups, halo(C₁-C₆)alkylsulfonyl groups, (C₁-C₆)-alkylthio(C₁-C₆)alkyl groups, (C₁-C₆)alkoxycarbonyl groups and phenyl group; a (C₃-C₈)alkenylene group; a substituted (C₃-C₈)alkenylene group having one or more same or different substituents selected form halogen atoms, cyano

group, nitro group, halo(C₁-C₆)alkyl groups, (C₁-C₆)alkoxy groups, halo(C₁-C₆)alkoxy groups, (C₁-C₆)alkylthio groups, halo(C₁-C₆)alkylthio groups, (C₁-C₆)alkylsulfinyl groups, halo(C₁-C₆)alkylsulfinyl groups, (C₁-C₆)alkylsulfonyl groups, halo(C₁-C₆)-alkylsulfonyl groups, (C₁-C₆)alkylthio(C₁-C₆)alkyl groups, (C₁-C₆)alkoxycarbonyl groups and phenyl group;
a (C₃-C₈)alkynylene group; or a substituted (C₃-C₈)alkynylene group having one or more same or different substituents selected from halogen atoms, cyano group, nitro group, halo(C₁-C₆)alkyl groups, (C₁-C₆)alkoxy groups, halo(C₁-C₆)alkoxy groups, (C₁-C₆)alkylthio groups, halo(C₁-C₆)alkylthio groups, (C₁-C₆)alkylsulfinyl groups, halo(C₁-C₆)alkylsulfinyl groups, (C₁-C₆)alkylsulfonyl groups, halo(C₁-C₆)alkylsulfonyl groups, (C₁-C₆)alkylthio(C₁-C₆)alkyl groups, (C₁-C₆)alkoxycarbonyl groups and phenyl group;

in the (C₁-C₈)alkylene group, the substituted (C₁-C₈)alkylene group, the (C₃-C₈)alkenylene group, the substituted (C₃-C₈) alkenylene group, the (C₃-C₈)-alkynylene group or the substituted (C₃-C₈)alkynylene group, any saturated carbon atom may be substituted with a (C₂-C₅)alkylene group to form a (C₃-C₆)cycloalkane ring; further in the (C₁-C₈)alkylene group, the substituted (C₁-C₈) alkylene group, the (C₃-C₈)alkenylene group or the substituted (C₃-C₈) alkenylene group, any two carbon atoms may be combined with an alkylene group or an alkenylene group to form a (C₃-C₆)cycloalkane ring or a (C₃-C₆)cycloalkene ring;

B is [-CO- or] -C(=N-OR⁴)- (wherein R⁴ is a hydrogen atom; a (C₁-C₆)alkyl group; a halo(C₁-C₆)alkyl group; a (C₃-C₆)alkenyl group; a halo(C₃-C₆)alkenyl group; a (C₃-C₆)alkynyl group; a (C₃-C₆)cycloalkyl group; a phenyl(C₁-C₄)alkyl group; or a substituted phenyl(C₁-C₄)alkyl group having, on the ring, one or more same or different substituents selected from halogen atoms, cyano group,

nitro group, (C₁-C₆)alkyl groups, halo(C₁-C₆)alkyl groups, (C₁-C₆)alkoxy groups, halo(C₁-C₆)alkoxy groups, (C₁-C₆)alkylthio groups, halo(C₁-C₆)alkylthio groups, (C₁-C₆)alkylsulfinyl groups, halo(C₁-C₆)-alkylsulfinyl groups, (C₁-C₆)alkylsulfonyl groups, halo(C₁-C₆)alkylsulfonyl groups, mono(C₁-C₆)alkylamino groups, di(C₁-C₆)alkylamino groups wherein the two alkyl groups may be the same or different, and (C₁-C₆)-alkoxycarbonyl groups);

R¹ is a hydrogen atom; a (C₁-C₆)alkyl group; a halo(C₁-C₆)alkyl group; a (C₂-C₆)alkenyl group; a halo(C₂-C₆)alkenyl group; a (C₃-C₆)cycloalkyl group; a halo(C₃-C₆)cycloalkyl group; a (C₁-C₆)alkoxy group; a halo(C₁-C₆)alkoxy group; a (C₁-C₆)alkylthio group; a halo(C₁-C₆)alkylthio group; a mono(C₁-C₆)alkylamino group; a di(C₁-C₆)alkylamino group wherein the two alkyl groups may be the same or different; a phenyl group; a substituted phenyl group having one or more same or different substituents selected from halogen atoms, cyano group, nitro group, (C₁-C₆)alkyl groups, halo(C₁-C₆)alkyl groups, (C₁-C₆)alkoxy groups, halo(C₁-C₆)alkoxy groups, (C₁-C₆)alkylthio groups, halo(C₁-C₆)alkylthio groups, (C₁-C₆)alkylsulfinyl groups, halo(C₁-C₆)-alkylsulfinyl groups, (C₁-C₆)alkylsulfonyl groups, halo(C₁-C₆)alkylsulfonyl groups, mono(C₁-C₆)alkylamino groups, di(C₁-C₆)alkylamino groups wherein the two alkyl groups may be the same or different, and (C₁-C₆)-alkoxycarbonyl groups; a phenylamino group; a substituted phenylamino group having, on the ring, one or more same or different substituents selected from halogen atoms, cyano group, nitro group, (C₁-C₆)alkyl groups, halo(C₁-C₆)alkyl groups, (C₁-C₆)alkoxy groups, halo(C₁-C₆)alkoxy groups, (C₁-C₆)alkylthio groups, halo(C₁-C₆)alkylthio groups, (C₁-C₆)alkylsulfinyl groups, halo(C₁-C₆)alkylsulfinyl groups, (C₁-C₆)alkylsulfonyl groups, halo(C₁-C₆)alkylsulfonyl groups, mono(C₁-C₆)-alkylamino groups, di(C₁-C₆)alkylamino groups wherein the

two alkyl groups may be the same or different, and (C₁-C₆)alkoxycarbonyl groups; a phenoxy group; a substituted phenoxy group having one or more same or different substituents selected from halogen atoms, cyano group, nitro group, (C₁-C₆)alkyl groups, halo(C₁-C₆)alkyl groups, (C₁-C₆)alkoxy groups, halo(C₁-C₆)alkoxy groups, (C₁-C₆)alkylthio groups, halo(C₁-C₆)alkylthio groups, (C₁-C₆)alkylsulfinyl groups, halo(C₁-C₆)-alkylsulfinyl groups, (C₁-C₆)alkylsulfonyl groups, halo(C₁-C₆)alkylsulfonyl groups, mono(C₁-C₆)alkylamino groups, di(C₁-C₆)alkylamino groups wherein the two alkyl groups may be the same or different, and (C₁-C₆)-alkoxycarbonyl groups; a phenylthio group; a substituted phenylthio group having one or more same or different substituents selected from halogen atoms, cyano group, nitro group, (C₁-C₆)alkyl groups, halo(C₁-C₆)alkyl groups, (C₁-C₆)alkoxy groups, halo(C₁-C₆)alkoxy groups, (C₁-C₆)alkylthio groups, halo(C₁-C₆)alkylthio groups, (C₁-C₆)alkylsulfinyl groups, halo(C₁-C₆)-alkylsulfinyl groups, (C₁-C₆)alkylsulfonyl groups, halo(C₁-C₆)alkylsulfonyl groups, mono(C₁-C₆)alkylamino groups, di(C₁-C₆)alkylamino groups wherein the two alkyl groups may be the same or different, and (C₁-C₆)-alkoxycarbonyl groups; a heterocyclic group; or a substituted heterocyclic group having one or more same or different substituents selected from halogen atoms, cyano group, nitro group, (C₁-C₆)alkyl groups, halo(C₁-C₆)alkyl groups, (C₁-C₆)alkoxy groups, halo(C₁-C₆)alkoxy groups, (C₁-C₆)alkylthio groups, halo(C₁-C₆)alkylthio groups, (C₁-C₆)alkylsulfinyl groups, halo(C₁-C₆)-alkylsulfinyl groups, (C₁-C₆)alkylsulfonyl groups, halo(C₁-C₆)alkylsulfonyl groups, mono(C₁-C₆)alkylamino groups, di(C₁-C₆)alkylamino groups wherein the two alkyl groups may be the same or different, and (C₁-C₆)-alkoxycarbonyl groups;

R¹ may bond with A¹ to form a 4- to 7-membered ring which may

contain, as a ring-constituting atom(s), one or two same or different atoms selected from oxygen, sulfur and nitrogen atoms;

R² and R³ may be the same or different and are each a hydrogen atom or a (C₁-C₆)alkyl group;

Q¹ to Q⁴ may be the same or different and are each a carbon atom which may be substituted with X; X may be the same or different when it is more than one, and is a halogen atom, a nitro group, a (C₁-C₆)alkyl group, a halo(C₁-C₆)alkyl group, a (C₂-C₆)alkenyl group, a halo(C₂-C₆)alkenyl group, a (C₂-C₆)alkynyl group, a halo(C₂-C₆)alkynyl group, a halo(C₁-C₆)alkoxy group or a halo(C₁-C₆)alkylthio group; the two Xs bonding to the adjacent two carbon atoms constituting the aromatic ring containing Q¹ to Q⁴ may bond to each other to form a condensed ring; the condensed ring may have one or more same or different substituents selected from halogen atoms, (C₁-C₆)alkyl groups, halo(C₁-C₆)alkyl groups, (C₁-C₆)alkoxy groups, halo(C₁-C₆)alkoxy groups, (C₁-C₆)alkylthio groups, halo(C₁-C₆)alkylthio groups, (C₁-C₆)alkylsulfinyl groups, halo(C₁-C₆)alkylsulfinyl groups, (C₁-C₆)alkylsulfonyl groups and halo(C₁-C₆)alkylsulfonyl groups;

Q⁵ is a nitrogen atom or a carbon atom;

Y may be the same or different when it is more than one, and is a halogen atom; a (C₁-C₆)alkyl group; a halo(C₁-C₆)alkyl group; a (C₁-C₆)alkoxy group; a halo(C₁-C₆)alkoxy group; a (C₁-C₆)alkylthio group; a halo(C₁-C₆)alkylthio group; a (C₁-C₆)alkylsulfinyl group; a halo(C₁-C₆)alkylsulfinyl group; a (C₁-C₆)alkylsulfonyl group; a halo(C₁-C₆)alkylsulfonyl group; a halo(C₁-C₆)alkoxy group; a phenyl group; a substituted phenyl group having one or more same or different substituents selected from halogen atoms, cyano group, halo(C₁-C₆)alkyl groups, halo(C₁-C₆)alkoxy groups, halo(C₁-C₆)alkylthio groups,

halo(C_1 - C_6)-alkylsulfinyl groups and halo(C_1 - C_6)alkylsulfonyl groups; a phenoxy group; a substituted phenoxy group having one or more same or different substituents selected from halogen atoms, cyano group, halo(C_1 - C_6)-alkyl groups, halo(C_1 - C_6)alkoxy groups, halo(C_1 - C_6)-alkylthio groups, halo(C_1 - C_6)alkylsulfinyl groups and halo(C_1 - C_6)alkylsulfonyl groups; a pyridyloxy group; or a substituted pyridyloxy group having one or more same or different substituents selected from halogen atoms, cyano group, halo(C_1 - C_6)-alkyl groups, halo(C_1 - C_6)alkoxy groups, halo(C_1 - C_6)-alkylthio groups, halo(C_1 - C_6)-alkylsulfinyl groups and halo(C_1 - C_6)-alkylsulfonyl groups;

the two Ys bonding to the adjacent two carbon atoms constituting the aromatic ring containing Q⁵ may bond to each other to form a condensed ring; the condensed ring may have one or more same or different substituents selected from halogen atoms; (C_1 - C_6)-alkyl groups; halo(C_1 - C_6)-alkyl groups; (C_1 - C_6)-alkoxy groups; halo(C_1 - C_6)-alkoxy groups; (C_1 - C_6)-alkylthio groups; halo(C_1 - C_6)-alkylthio groups; (C_1 - C_6)-alkylsulfinyl groups; halo(C_1 - C_6)-alkylsulfinyl groups; (C_1 - C_6)-alkylsulfonyl groups; halo(C_1 - C_6)-alkylsulfonyl groups; phenyl group; and substituted phenyl groups having one or more same or different substituents selected from halogen atoms, halo(C_1 - C_6)-alkyl groups, halo(C_1 - C_6)-alkoxy groups, halo(C_1 - C_6)-alkylthio groups, halo(C_1 - C_6)-alkylsulfinyl groups and halo(C_1 - C_6)-alkylsulfonyl groups;

m is an integer of 1 to 5;

Z¹ and Z² are each an oxygen atom.

Claim 4. (Twice Amended) An agrohorticultural composition characterized by containing, as an effective ingredient, an aromatic diamide [derivative] compound or a salt thereof according to claim 1.